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a strip of material less hard than the magnet, the strip interposed between the magnet and at least one of the grooves, the strip covering a circumferential face of the magnet oriented in a direction opposite to a shaft of the alternator; and

a layer of adhesive more flexible than the magnet, the layer of adhesive interposed between the strip and the magnet.

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please substitute the attached Abstract of the Invention.

REMARKS

Upon entry of this amendment, Claims 1-30 are pending.

Claims 1-14 were rejected.

Claims 1, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11 and 13 are amended herein.

New Claims 15-30 have been added herein.

Claims 1, 16 and 30 are independent claims.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 ¶ 2 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claims the subject matter of the invention.

With respect to Claim 1, the Office Action alleges the clause "the strip being produced from a material less hard than the magnet" is indefinite because metes and bounds for the limitation are not clearly cited. With respect to Claim 10, the Office Action alleges the clause "a layer of material which is more flexible than the magnet" is indefinite because metes and bounds for the limitation are not clearly cited.

Applicants submit that a magnet is well know as a mass of material that has the properties of attracting iron and producing a magnet field external to itself. Once the material that will